

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**  
**TO H.R. 3696**  
**OFFERED BY Mr. Correa**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Wounded Warrior  
3 Workforce Enhancement Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS EDUCATION IM-**  
**5 PROVEMENT.**

**6 (a) GRANTS REQUIRED.—**

7       (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans  
8 Affairs shall award grants to eligible institutions to  
9 enable the eligible institutions—

10           (A) to establish a master’s degree program  
11 in orthotics and prosthetics; or

12           (B) to expand upon an existing master’s  
13 degree program in orthotics and prosthetics, in-  
14 cluding by admitting more students, further  
15 training faculty, expanding facilities, or increas-  
16 ing cooperation with the Department of Vet-  
17 erans Affairs and the Department of Defense.

1           (2) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give pri-  
2           ority in the award of grants under this section to eli-  
3           gible institutions that have entered into a partner-  
4           ship with a medical center or clinic administered by  
5           the Department of Veterans Affairs, a facility ad-  
6           ministered by the Department of Defense, or a pri-  
7           vate sector community-based clinic under contract  
8           with the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide  
9           prosthetic or orthotic care to significant numbers of  
10          veterans. Such a partnership shall include the provi-  
11          sion of clinical rotations at such medical center, clin-  
12          ic, or facility for the purpose of preparing students  
13          to meet the unique needs of veterans with limb loss  
14          or chronic limb impairment.

15          (3) GRANT AMOUNTS.—Grants awarded under  
16          this section shall be in amounts of not less than  
17          \$1,000,000 and not more than \$1,500,000.

18          (b) REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS.—

19               (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
20               after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not  
21               less frequently than annually thereafter for two  
22               years, the Secretary shall issue a request for pro-  
23               posals from eligible institutions for grants under this  
24               section.

1           (2) PROPOSALS.—An eligible institution that  
2 seeks the award of a grant under this section shall  
3 submit an application therefor to the Secretary at  
4 such time, in such manner, and accompanied by  
5 such information as the Secretary may require, in-  
6 cluding—

7           (A) demonstration of a willingness and  
8 ability to participate in a partnership described  
9 in subsection (a)(2); and

10           (B) a commitment, and demonstration of  
11 an ability, to maintain an accredited orthotics  
12 and prosthetics education program after the  
13 end of the grant period.

14       (c) GRANT USES.—

15           (1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible institution  
16 awarded a grant under this section shall use grant  
17 amounts to carry out any of the following:

18           (A) Building new or expanding existing  
19 orthotics and prosthetics master's degree pro-  
20 grams.

21           (B) Training doctoral candidates in fields  
22 related to orthotics and prosthetics to prepare  
23 them to instruct in orthotics and prosthetics  
24 programs.

1 (C) Training faculty in orthotics and pros-  
2 thetics education or related fields for the pur-  
3 pose of instruction in orthotics and prosthetics  
4 programs.

5 (D) Financial aid that allows eligible insti-  
6 tutions to admit additional students to study  
7 orthotics and prosthetics.

8 (E) Funding faculty research projects or  
9 faculty time to undertake research in the areas  
10 of orthotics and prosthetics for the purpose of  
11 furthering their teaching abilities.

12 (F) Renovation of buildings or minor con-  
13 struction to house orthotics and prosthetics  
14 education programs.

15 (G) Purchasing equipment for orthotics  
16 and prosthetics education.

17 (2) LIMITATION ON CONSTRUCTION.—An eligi-  
18 ble institution awarded a grant under this section  
19 may use not more than 50 percent of the grant  
20 amount to carry out paragraph (1)(F).

21 (3) ADMISSIONS PREFERENCE.—An eligible in-  
22 stitution awarded a grant under this section shall  
23 give preference in admission to the orthotics and  
24 prosthetics master's degree programs to veterans, to  
25 the extent practicable.

1 (4) PERIOD OF USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible in-  
2 stitution awarded a grant under this section may use  
3 the grant amount for a period of three years after  
4 the award of the grant.

5 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6 (1) The term “eligible institution” means an  
7 educational institution that offers an orthotics and  
8 prosthetics education program that—

9 (A) is accredited by the National Commis-  
10 sion on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education in  
11 cooperation with the Commission on Accredita-  
12 tion of Allied Health Education Programs; or

13 (B) demonstrates an ability to meet the ac-  
14 creditation requirements for orthotic and pros-  
15 thetic education from the National Commission  
16 on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education in co-  
17 operation with the Commission on Accreditation  
18 of Allied Health Education Programs if the in-  
19 stitution receives a grant under this section.

20 (2) The term “veteran” has the meaning given  
21 that term in section 101 of title 38, United States  
22 Code.

23 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be  
25 appropriated \$15,000,000 to carry out this section.

1           (2) UNOBLIGATED AMOUNTS TO BE RETURNED  
2           TO THE TREASURY.—Any amounts authorized to be  
3           appropriated by paragraph (1) that are not obligated  
4           by the Secretary as of September 30, 2021, shall be  
5           returned to the Treasury of the United States.

